

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for remotely monitoring a printer status, comprising the steps of:

displaying a list of selectable printer status objects on a display device in a remote client in data communication with a printer, where a name of each of the printer status objects is displayed in a printer management language native to the printer;

selecting one of the a printer status objects object from among a the list of selectable printer status objects in the a remote client; in data communication with a printer;

generating an email in the remote client;

writing a status request into the email in a printer management language native to the printer, the status request requesting a current status of the selected one of the printer status objects object in the printer;

transmitting the email to the printer; and

receiving a reply email from the printer that includes the current status of the selected one of the printer status objects object in the printer, the current status being expressed in the printer management language native to the printer.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

generating an initial email in the remote client;

writing a request for the list of selectable printer status objects into the initial email;

receiving an initial reply email from the printer, the initial reply including the list of selectable printer status objects; and

parsing the initial reply email to obtain the list of selectable printer status objects from the initial reply email.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of obtaining the list of selectable printer status objects from a server in data communication with the remote client.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

parsing the reply email to identify the current status of the selected one of the printer status objects ~~object~~; and

displaying the current status associated with the selected one of the printer status objects ~~object~~.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying the reply email with the current status of the printer status object.

6-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A system for remotely monitoring printer status, comprising:

a processor circuit having a processor and a memory;

a remote printer management system stored in the memory and executable by the processor, the printer monitoring system comprising:

logic that displays a list of selectable printer status objects on a display device by displaying a name of each of the printer status objects in the printer management language native to a printer;

logic that facilitates a selection of one of the ~~a~~ printer status objects ~~object~~ from among the ~~a~~ list of selectable printer status objects;

logic that generates an email to be transmitted to a printer;

logic that writes a request for a status of the selected one of the printer status objects ~~object~~ in the printer into the email, the request being expressed in a printer management language native to the printer; and

logic that transmits the email to the printer to receive a reply email from the printer that includes the current status of the selected one of the printer status objects ~~object~~ in the printer.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the remote printer management system further comprises:

logic that generates an initial email to be transmitted to the printer;

logic that writes a request for the list of selectable printer status objects into the initial email; and

logic that parses an initial reply email received from the printer to identify the list of selectable printer status objects included in the initial reply email.

12. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the remote printer management system further comprises logic that requests the list of selectable printer status objects from a server through a network.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, wherein the remote printer management system further comprises:

logic that parses the reply email to identify the current status of the selected one of the printer status objects ~~object~~ included therein; and

logic that displays the current status associated with the selected one of the printer status objects ~~object~~.

14-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A program stored in a computer-readable medium for remotely monitoring printer status, comprising:

code that displays a list of selectable printer status objects on a display device by displaying a name of each of the printer status objects in the printer management language native to a printer;

code that facilitates a selection of one of the ~~a~~ printer status objects ~~object~~ from among the ~~a~~ list of selectable printer status objects specified in a management information base (MIB) applicable to a printer;

code that generates an email to be transmitted to the printer;

code that writes a request for a status of the selected one of the printer status objects ~~object~~ in the printer into the email, the request being expressed in a printer management language native to the printer; and

code that transmits the email to the printer to receive a reply email from the printer that includes the current status of the selected one of the printer status objects ~~object~~ in the printer.

17. (Original) The program stored in a computer-readable medium of claim 16, further comprising:

code that generates an initial email to be transmitted to the printer;

code that writes a request for the list of selectable printer status objects into the initial email; and

code that parses an initial reply email received from the printer to identify the list of selectable printer status objects included in the initial reply email.

18. (Original) The program stored in a computer-readable medium of claim 16, further comprising code that requests the list of selectable printer status objects from a server through a network.

19. (Currently Amended) The program stored in a computer-readable medium of claim 16, further comprising:

code that parses the reply email to identify the current status of the selected one of the printer status objects ~~object~~ included therein; and

code that displays the current status associated with the selected one of the printer status objects ~~object~~.

20. (Currently Amended) A system for remotely monitoring printer status, comprising:

means for displaying a list of selectable printer status objects on a display device by displaying a name of each of the printer status objects in the printer management language native to a printer;

means for facilitating a selection of one of the a printer status objects ~~object~~ from ~~among the a~~ list of selectable printer status objects specified in a management information base (MIB) applicable to a printer;

means for generating an email to be transmitted to the printer;

means for writing a request for a status of the selected one of the printer status objects ~~object~~ in the printer into the email, the request being expressed in a printer management language native to the printer; and

means for transmitting the email to the printer to receive a reply email from the printer that includes the current status of the selected one of the printer status objects ~~object~~ in the printer.

21. (Original) A method for remotely configuring a printer ~~monitoring a printer status~~, comprising the steps of:

displaying a list of selectable printer status objects on a display device by displaying a name of each of the printer status objects in the printer management language native to a printer;

selecting a printer status object from among the a list of selectable printer status objects in a remote client in data communication with a printer;

generating an email in the remote client;

writing a command to manipulate a configuration of the printer into the email in a printer management language native to the printer;

transmitting the email to the printer; and

receiving a reply email from the printer that acknowledges a modification of the configuration of the printer in response to the command.